

AMENDMENTS TO THE SPECIFICATION

Please amend the paragraph on page 3, lines 1-2 as follows:

Fig. 5 is a ~~perspective~~ side view of a second embodiment of the nail clipper according to the present invention;

Paragraphs from page 4, line 7 to page 5, line 6:

In this embodiment of the invention, a bumper 119 is provided on the bottom surface 106 of the bottom member 102. The bumper 119 can be a solid or hollow mass extending downwardly from the bottom surface 106. It can be hard or pliable. An end of bumper 119 is positioned at a point that is part way between the proximal and distal ends bottom member 102. In the embodiment shown in Figure 4, one edge of bumper 119 is positioned about 1/4 or less of the distance between from the distal end toward the proximal end. The bumper 119 preferably extends to the cutting edge 114 and preferably, covers the enlarged head of post 117. This arrangement helps to maintain post 117 in place should post 117 become uncoupled from lever 118 and also assists in preventing a finger from sliding toward the cutting edges. A second upwardly extending bumper 119a is provided on top surface 105 of elongated member 101 in Figure 4 extending from cutting edge 113 to ~~pin~~ post 117 to reinforce the distal end of member 101, but this can be eliminated if desired.

In a second embodiment shown in Figures 5 and 6, bumper 119 extends from the distal end of lower member 102 and forms a triangular shaped grip. This bumper arrangement causes the fingers of the user to naturally lie on either side of the triangle's apex and away from the cutting edges 113, 114, thereby generally achieving the same biasing away from the cutting surfaces as in Figure 4. In this alternative, a triangular shaped

member 120 with a thumb accepting depression 121 can provided on the lever 118 (Figure 5). The cutting surfaces in the Figure 4-5 embodiment are displaced from the longitudinal axis of top and bottom elongated members 101, 102. As in Figure 4, post 117 extends to a point 117a above the top surface 103 of top elongated member 101.